



**EMERGING MINDS NETWORK**

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**PROGRESS  
REPORT**

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**NOVEMBER 2021**

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## WHO ARE WE?

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The Emerging Minds Research Network is funded by UK Research & Innovation (UKRI) to facilitate research that has the potential to reduce the prevalence of mental health problems among children and young people.

Our focus is on prevention, mental health promotion, and early treatment. By working across sectors and disciplines, we hope to bring together a diverse range of people interested in mental health research and to work to tackle our four research challenges.

# RESEARCH CHALLENGES

We've prioritised 4 research challenges that can be addressed by cross disciplinary and cross-sector research.

These research challenges were developed on the basis of consultation with young people, families, practitioners, and policy makers; in partnership with Young Minds and the Centre for Mental Health.

They all focus on improving mental health promotion, prevention and early treatment to reduce the prevalence of mental health problems experienced by children and young people.



## **The Big Question**



## **Embracing Complexity**



## **Voices, Power & Attitudes**



## **Supporting the Supporters**

[emergingminds.org.uk/research](https://emergingminds.org.uk/research)



# EMERGING MINDS IN NUMBERS

OUR PROGRESS SO FAR (NOVEMBER 2021)

## NETWORK BUILDING



**2009 mailing list  
subscribers**



**5891 Twitter  
followers**



**13 kick off  
events**



**362 kick off  
event  
attendees**



**339 Early Career  
Researchers  
(ECRs) on our  
mailing list**

## OUTPUTS



**9  
funded  
projects**



**3 funded  
cross-sector  
placements**



**15  
podcast  
episodes**



**24  
newsletters**



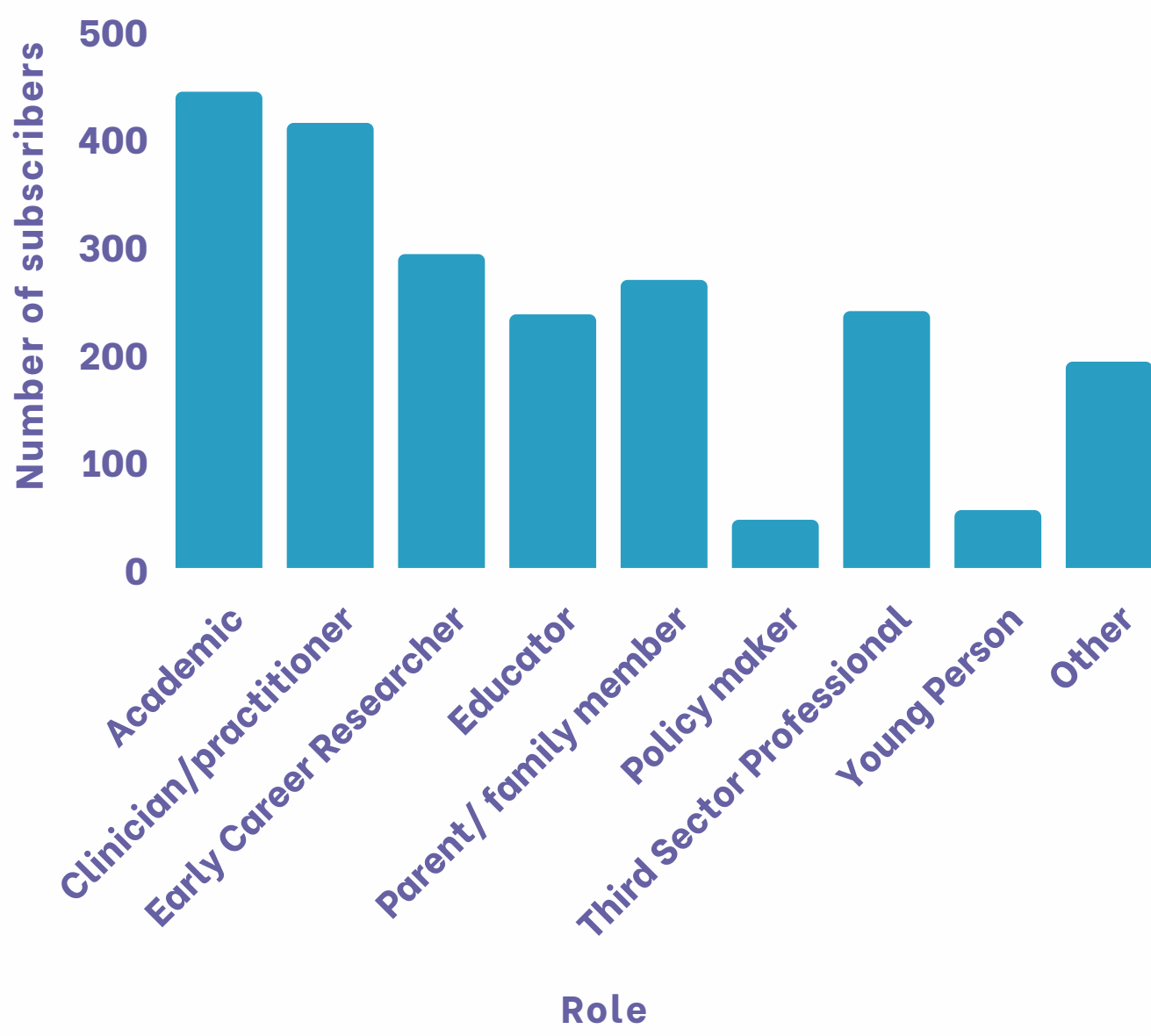
**20 Special  
Interest  
Research  
Groups**



# WHO ARE OUR MEMBERS?

In October 2020, we asked our newsletter subscribers to tell us about their experiences of Emerging Minds

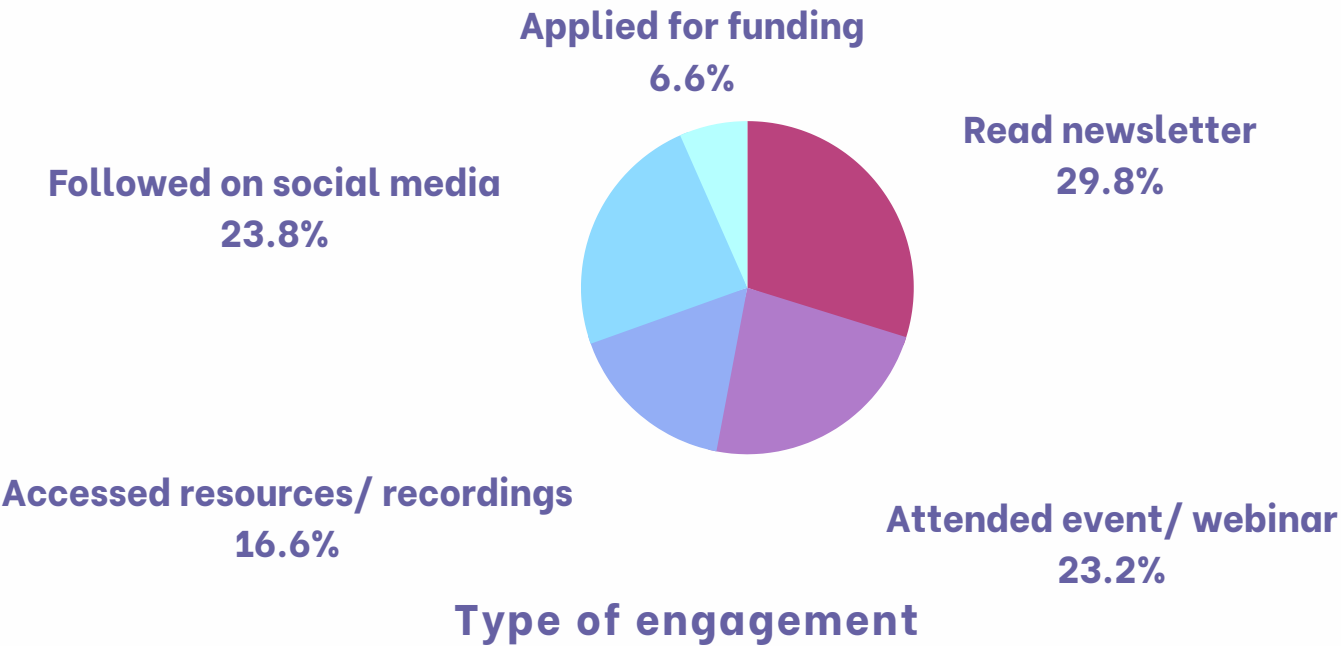
We wanted to understand who had been getting involved with Emerging Minds. This is what our members told us about their roles:





# HOW DO MEMBERS ENGAGE?

We also asked our newsletter subscribers how they had engaged with us:



We have been delighted by the positive feedback we have received about our monthly newsletter. It has been a key part of how we have built our network, allowing us to maximise engagement with the opportunities we have provided as well as wider opportunities for training, funding, and collaboration.

*“Just wanted to say that your emerging mind network newsletter is bloody brilliant! I rarely read newsletters in the general business of things – but yours is fab. V impressed : -)”*

**Newsletter subscriber**



# MEMBERS' VIEWS

Here are the most frequent keywords that mailing subscribers used when asked:

**What has been most useful about Emerging Minds so far?**

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Networking</b>    | <b>Resources</b>   |
| <b>Funding</b>       | <b>ECR support</b> |
| <b>Friendly team</b> |                    |

Mailing subscribers were also asked:

**What is your overall impression of us?**

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Good team</b> | <b>Research</b>      |
| <b>Effective</b> | <b>Network</b>       |
| <b>Useful</b>    | <b>Opportunities</b> |

Most members stated that they would recommend the Emerging Minds Network to those interested in research for children and young people's mental health

[illegible]

We have been very grateful for their ideas, detailed feedback, and advice for researchers at every stage of our work.

*The welcome into the world of research was warm, inclusive and filled with curiosity; inspiring me to start a Doctorate focusing on Mental Health and Coproduction!“*

8

# CROSS SECTOR PLACEMENTS

The Emerging Minds Network has been supporting Early Career Researchers (ECRs) with 3 funded cross-sector placements so far. We have some stories to share from those who took part and their hosts.

**Evaluating projects  
designed to alleviate  
mental health inequalities**

Centre for  
Mental Health



*“My Emerging Minds placement with the Centre for Mental Health gave me opportunities to meet and work with many people addressing mental health topics from different perspectives and backgrounds outside of academia.*

*I was trained in qualitative research methods and developed new research questions that I’m excited to pursue in collaboration with the charity.”*

**Dr Yasmin Ahmadzadeh, Kings College London**



## Embracing Complexity in Neurodevelopmental Research



*“The Emerging Minds cross-sector placement scheme played a pivotal role in developing Embracing Complexity’s research arm. Suzi’s hard work and insights have been absolutely invaluable, and I’m hopeful that her forthcoming report will kickstart a much-needed conversation on how we fund research across diagnostic boundaries.”*



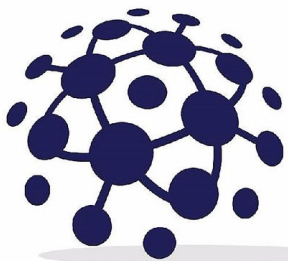
**Georgia Harper, Embracing Complexity Coalition**



*“Participating in the cross-sector scheme has been invaluable to my development as an ECR. It enabled me to work closely with Embracing Complexity, benefitting from their wealth of skills and experience, particularly regarding maximising the impact of research to policy and practice.*

*Our collaboration is ongoing - additional funding was awarded to conduct further research and from Emerging Minds to establish a special interest research group - which would not have happened without the scheme.”*

**Dr Suzi Sapiets, Universities of Warwick & Kent**



## Understanding online help seeking of young people via the Childline moderated online peer-to-peer message boards

*“The placement has opened up new opportunities in a really meaningful area of research to me – supporting young people who have experienced emotional abuse and neglect. I was given both autonomy and support to configure the project, develop new research skills and methods and work*



*together with the NSPCC and Childline teams. Working in this collaborative way with a 3rd-sector organisation who really embraced involving young people (NeurOX Young People’s Advisory Group) in research co-production was really important for me. The young co-researchers also grew in confidence and capabilities throughout the project and described several benefits, for example: “I enjoyed feeling that I had made a difference and helped improve the service” . I feel there were valuable outputs for all and the findings will help to inform further support for these young people and research in this area.”*

**Vanessa Bennett, University of Oxford**



*“The NSPCC was fortunate to be one of the organisations to have an Early Career Researcher placement through Emerging Minds. The value of this placement has gone beyond the original three month project for all involved. The researcher involved young researchers in the project, which brought added depth and value. In addition to the outputs of the research project itself, this project showed that it is possible to involve young people as researchers in a meaningful way and that their involvement brings clear benefits to the research findings.”*

**Pam Miller, NSPCC**

**And there's more to come ...**

**MENTAL  
HEALTH  
INNOVATIONS**

**shout**  
**85258**  
here for you 24/7

**Cross-sector placement in 2022  
Coming soon!**

# FUNDING CALL APPLICATIONS

Our first funding call invited research proposals to address 3 of our research challenges: **Embracing Complexity**, **Supporting the Supporters** and **Voices, Power & Attitudes**. This funding call closed to applications in February 2020.

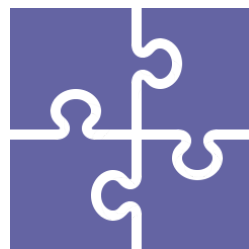
Our second funding call focused specifically on our **Voices, Power & Attitudes** research challenge and closed for applications in June 2021.



**83% of bids had  
ECRs within  
the team**



**51% of bids had  
an ECR as the  
lead applicant**



**63% of bids had  
multi-disciplinary  
involvement**

# FUNDED PROJECTS FROM OUR FIRST FUNDING CALL



Dr Emma Berry – Queens University  
Belfast

**Social Media and Psychological  
Wellbeing in Young People with Type 1  
diabetes: A Stakeholder Engagement  
Study**



Dr Lucy Biddle – University of Bristol  
**Defining delivery of the 'Step by Step'  
intervention for schools:  
a co-production project**



Dr Charlotte Hall – University of  
Nottingham

**Waiting for Access into Treatment 'WAIT'  
study: an exploration of current  
interventions offered to children and  
young people on CAMHS waiting lists**





Dr Faith Martin – Coventry University  
**Developing web-based support for  
parents of children who self-harm**



Emma Soneson – University of  
Cambridge  
**Can an online teacher training  
programme improve identification of  
mental health difficulties in  
primary school children?  
A feasibility study**



Dr Emily Stapley, University College  
London  
& Dr Daniel Hayes, Anna Freud Centre  
**Developing social prescribing to  
improve mental health and wellbeing  
for children and young people**



# VOICES, POWER & ATTITUDES



The **Voices, Power & Attitudes** research challenge was identified as a priority in our original consultation workshops with stakeholders, however we did not fund any projects that addressed this challenge in our first funding call. In response we focused a specific funding call on this challenge in 2021.

We focused on the following questions:

- What is the **impact** of racism on the mental health of children & young people in the UK?
- What **interventions** will be effective in addressing racism in ways that will benefit children & young people's mental health?

We recruited an intern **Fiyory Ghezae** and two advisors: **Adenike Adebiyi** and **Jawwad Mustafa** to help us develop this funding call.

Fiyory carried out a rapid scoping review of existing published research focused on the impact of racism on children and young people's mental health in the UK.

Fiyory, Nikki and Jawwad also hosted a priority setting workshop with young people aged 16-24 years with lived experience of racism and/ or mental health difficulties in January 2021. This was followed by a priority setting workshop with those who support young people who experience racism.

We are very proud that Fiyory, Nikki and Jawwad also published a commentary on the Department of Health and Social Care mental health research goals as part of their work, as well as a piece for the journal *Lancet Psychiatry* which is due to be released soon.

[emergingminds.org.uk/voices-power-attitudes](https://emergingminds.org.uk/voices-power-attitudes)

We launched our second funding call on Voices, Power & Attitudes in March 2021 and received 9 applications. We awarded a total of £70,000 of funding to 3 research teams:



Dr Yasmin Ahmadzadeh,  
Kings College London  
**TRADE: Transmission of  
experiences of Racism,  
Anxiety and DEpression in  
families**

Dr Verity Jones & Team,  
University of West of England  
**Improving well-being and  
mental health relating to  
racism in 10-11 year olds: a  
Bristol case study**

Dr Shioma-lei Craythorne,  
Aston University  
**Understanding young people's  
experiences of racially  
motivated appearance  
focused (RMAF) bullying.**

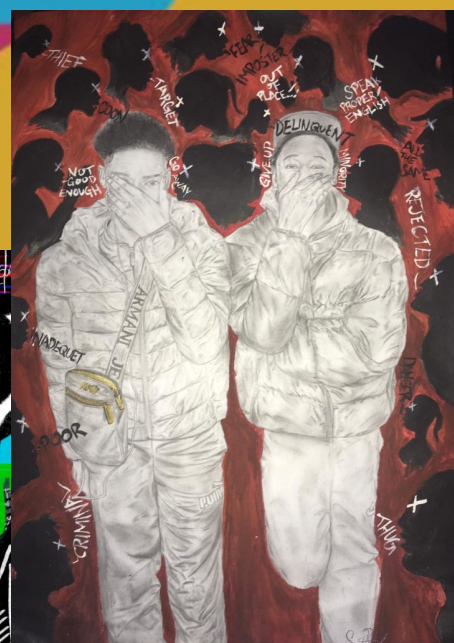
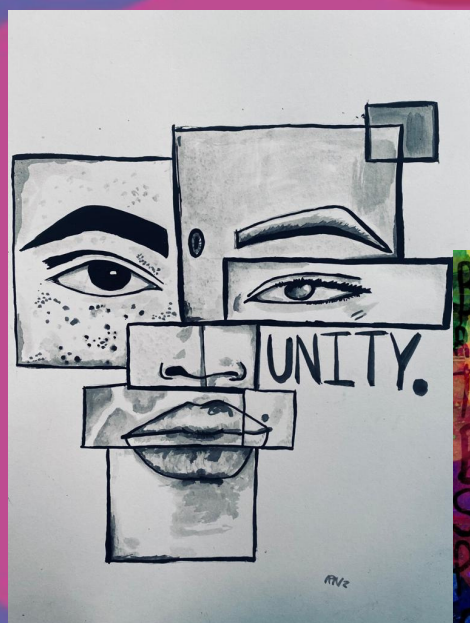


*"My time at Emerging Minds has been invaluable. I applied for the intern role hoping to gain more experience in research as I wanted to do a PhD and it exceeded my expectations. I've learnt so much and it's helped open doors and build my confidence as a young researcher."*

**Fiyory Ghezze, previous Emerging Minds Intern,  
current PhD student at Oxford Brookes University**

*"It has been an honour to work with the Emerging Minds Network. I have enjoyed having access to wonderful opportunities, including getting published in an academic journal, facilitating workshops and giving presentations, as well as being part of an interview and application review panel alongside a lovely team."*

**Nikki Adebiyi, Emerging Minds Advisor**



We are deeply grateful to Conor, Ronni and Selorm for their visual responses to our priority setting workshop.

To check out their work or follow them on Instagram:



Conor: [@conorofficial](https://www.instagram.com/conorofficial)

Ronni: [@projectrnz](https://www.instagram.com/projectrnz)

Selorm: [@selorm.official](https://www.instagram.com/selorm.official)



# COVID-19 RESPONSE

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, we worked with various partner organisations to respond to the global situation.



[cospaceoxford.org](https://cospaceoxford.org)

Emerging Minds supported the set up and launch of the UKRI and Westminster Foundation funded **Co-SPACE study** which has aimed to understand how families have been coping during the pandemic and to find out what kind of support would be most helpful.

Emerging Minds also supported a Medical Research Council and Westminster Foundation funded knowledge mobilisation project, **Co-RAY**.



**CoRAY**  
Covid-19 response: Mental Health  
Resources for and by Young People

The CoRAY project is focused on making sense of what research says about how the mental health of young people aged 11 – 16 years has been affected by the pandemic.

Through the CoRAY project we are working with young people and partners, including Headliners (UK), Fully Focused Productions, BBC Bitesize, the University of Reading Design School, Young Minds, and the TRIUMPH network, to develop resources to address young people's mental health priorities in the pandemic context and beyond.



# DEBATING MENTAL HEALTH

We secured additional public engagement in research seed funding from the University of Oxford enabling us to work with **Debating Mental Health** and **Didcot Girls School** to enable a group of 13 and 14 year olds to develop and share their views on



whether we can build a mentally healthier world as we live through and emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic. The final debate was held virtually in December 2020 and attended by over 40 people including representatives from local and national charity and community sector organisations, researchers, students, school staff and council representatives.



Young people participating in the programme, reported feeling more confident to share their views in public and more knowledgeable about mental health topics.

*“I don’t usually consider talking about my views that much but after this programme I am determined to do so.”*

**Programme participant**

*‘Their understanding of the impact of COVID on people’s mental health and what is needed to support this moving forward is heartwarming and offers hope for a more mentally healthy world.’*

**Final event audience member**

We worked with **Fully Focused Productions** to produce short films to share the young people’s views and prompt further discussion amongst members of the network.

**[emergingminds.org.uk/debating-mental-health-project-report](https://emergingminds.org.uk/debating-mental-health-project-report)**

The perspectives of young people who took part in our Debating Mental Health event were included in a report published by The All-Party Parliamentary Group on a **Fit and Healthy Childhood** and MQ titled **The COVID generation: A mental health pandemic in the making**. This report made a number of recommendations for policy makers for addressing the mental health needs of children and young people during the pandemic and beyond.





# COVID-19 RESOURCE

In March 2020, we released an evidence-based resource on '**Supporting children and young people with worries about COVID-19**' for parents of children aged 5-16.

This was authored by researchers and clinicians at the TOPIC research group (University of Oxford) and the AnDY research clinic (University of Reading).

With support from international partners, we were able to share 16 translations of this resource, **Afrikaans, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Slovenian, Spanish, Thai, Turkish** as well as versions for Ireland and for parents and carers of children aged 2-4 years old.

These resources have so far been viewed over 16,000 times.

To download the resource, visit:  
**[emergingminds.org.uk/parent-carer-covid-19-resource](https://emergingminds.org.uk/parent-carer-covid-19-resource)**

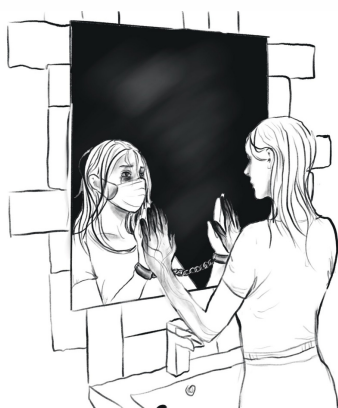
# COVID-19 CONFERENCE

## Youth Mental Health & COVID-19 Conference & Policy Lab

We jointly hosted a virtual conference with the Centre for Society & Mental Health and the Policy Institute at Kings College London, along with the Mental Elf.

The conference, ran over 3 days, focused on the question of ‘**Youth Mental Health & COVID-19: What do we know and what can we do?**’ Participants in the conference included young people, parents/carers, practitioners, clinicians, third sector organisations, and researchers. The proceedings have been viewed by over 1500 people so far.

The event culminated in a Policy lab, facilitated by the Policy Institute at Kings College London, which enabled stakeholders to respond to the evidence presented at the conference. The recommendations of this policy lab have now been shared on our website.



 @freyaawilson

Young people presented at the conference, took part in the policy lab, and also supported the dissemination of the evidence presented at the sessions through writing blogs and producing powerful illustrations of topics discussed.



 @selorm.official

## **YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH & COVID-19: WHAT DO WE KNOW & WHAT SHOULD WE DO?**

THE  
POLICY  
INSTITUTE

KING'S  
COLLEGE  
LONDON

UNIVERSITY OF  
OXFORD

Centre for  
Society and  
Mental Health

Emerging  
Minds



[emergingminds.org.uk/youthmentalhealthandcovid19](https://emergingminds.org.uk/youthmentalhealthandcovid19)



# COVID-19 PODCAST



Over spring and summer 2020, we hosted a **COVID-19 webinar series** for anyone supporting children and young people, in partnership with the Mental Elf. We invited researchers and clinicians to share what research can tell us about the following topics:

## **Living through Lockdown**

Dr Maria Loades,  
University of Bath  
Prof Shirley Reynolds,  
University of Reading

## **Teens, Screens & Quarantines**

Dr Amy Orben,  
University of Cambridge  
Dr Peter Etchells,  
Bath Spa University

## **Autism in Quarantine**

Prof Jonathan Green,  
University of Manchester  
Dr James Cusack,  
Autistica

## **Supporting Children & Young People who Self- Harm**

Prof Ann John,  
Swansea University  
Dr Faraz Mughal,  
Keele University

### **Back to School: School reintegration & youth mental health**

Prof Tamsin Ford, University  
of Cambridge

Dr Polly Waite, University  
of Oxford

Fran Morgan, Team Square Peg

### **Teen Sleep during COVID-19**

Dr Faith Orchard,  
University of Sussex,  
Dr Dimitri Gavriloff,  
University of Oxford

### **Practical Parenting during the Pandemic**

Dr Pete Lawrence,  
University of Southampton

Prof Cathy Creswell,  
University of Oxford

Dr Polly Waite,  
University of Oxford  
Eshal Sajid

### **Let Us Play! Child mental health during COVID-19**

Dr Wendy Russell,  
University of  
Gloucestershire

Prof Helen Dodd,  
University of Reading

Our COVID-19 podcast series was both free and popular, receiving over 8000 views in total. Recordings continue to be available on the Mental Elf Youtube channel and can be accessed via the Emerging Minds website:

<https://emergingminds.org.uk/podcast>





# SPECIAL INTEREST RESEARCH GROUPS

An important piece of feedback from our members' survey was that respondents were keen for further opportunities for networking and connections with people interested in child and young people's mental health.

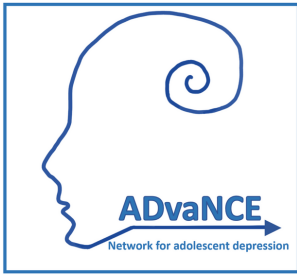
In response to this, we launched our **Special Interest Research Groups (SIRGs)**.

Each group is open to all. The coordinating teams bring together researchers in academic settings, people with relevant lived experience, colleagues from the voluntary and community sector, clinicians, and other key stakeholders. Each group was awarded £1500 to support involvement of young people and/or parents/carers with lived experience expertise.

For more info or to join a SIRG, visit  
**[emergingminds.org.uk/join-a-sirg](https://emergingminds.org.uk/join-a-sirg)**



# INTRODUCING THE SIRGS



## **ADvaNCE: Adolescent Depression – Network to Consolidate Expertise**

Dr Victoria Pile, Kings College London  
Dr Faith Orchard, University of Sussex

*“It’s been such a pleasure to work with Emerging Minds and the other Special Interest Research Groups over the past year. Whilst working on the development of our own Adolescent Depression Network to Consolidate Expertise (ADvaNCE), Emerging Minds have provided us with*



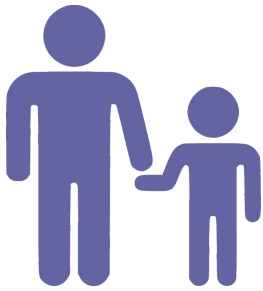
*support and training throughout the experience. Of particular help was the opportunity to liaise with other funded networks, to learn from their experiences, and to feel reassured by shared difficulties.”*

**Dr Faith Orchard, ADvaNCE Network**



## **Building Research Implementation to Develop & Grow Evidence-based Practice**

Dr Timothy Clarke, Norfolk and Suffolk  
NHS Foundation Trust



**Being Seen and Heard: Identifying the research priorities for children affected by parental mental illness**

Dr Louise Dalton, University of Oxford



**Improved Access to Treatment Choices for Children & Young People with Multisensory Hallucinations**

Dr Sarah Parry, Manchester Metropolitan University



**Eating Disorder Health Integration Team's (EDHIT) Young Voices**

Dr Helen Malson, University of the West of England



**Empowering Young People to take Responsibility for their own Mental Health**

Dave McPartlan, University of Cumbria



## **Language and Communication Needs in Mental Health**

Dr Hannah Hobson, University of York



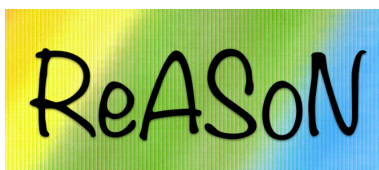
## **The Impact of Live Music Engagement in Improving Mental Health and Wellbeing in Children and Young People**

Amy Woodhouse, Children in Scotland



## **Embracing Complexity in Neurodevelopmental Conditions and Mental Health**

Georgia Harper, Autistica



## **Researchers And Students on Neurodiversity (ReASoN)**

Dr Deborah Caldwell, University of Bristol



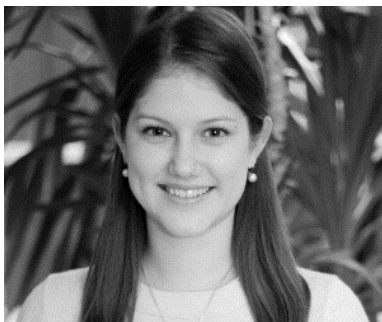
**PArental Wellbeing and Support for  
parents of young people with  
mental health problems (PAWS)**  
Dr Faith Martin, Coventry University



Rethinking Education

### **Rethinking Education**

Nikki Chapman, Fresh Plus Group  
Emma Soneson, University of  
Cambridge



*“As an ECR, I have benefitted immensely from the Emerging Minds Network. Their funding and workshops have allowed me to develop important research skills, and participation in the Rethinking Education SIRG has helped me form valuable partnerships with parents and teachers*

*that greatly enhance the quality and impact of my research.”*

**Emma Soneson, Rethinking Education**



## **Crucial Conversations on Youth Mental Health and Racism**

Thomzonke Zungu, University of Nottingham



## **Creative Therapy to Support Young People Engaged in Self-harm**

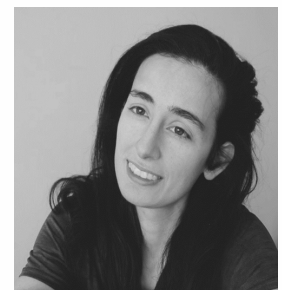
Julia Ruppert, Creative Arts



## **Social Photography**

Dr Kat Rawling, University of Leeds

*“Being a coordinator has been a great experience for me having never previously worked in the research field. Being able to work with and collaborate with a wide range of professionals has resulted in some insightful discussions. Working as a coordinator has led me to want to pursue further opportunities in the area of research.”*



**Laurene Fontan, Coordinator of Embracing Complexity**



**Understanding Harm – CAMHS  
(Understanding Harm from Child and  
Youth Mental Health Services)**

Dr Daniel Hayes, Anna Freud Centre



**Young People Involvement in Digital  
Mental Health**

Dr Aislinn Bergin and Dr Joanna Lockwood,  
University of Nottingham



**Youth Voice in and against Crisis  
Discourse – Pasts/Presents/Futures**

Dr James Duggan, Manchester  
Metropolitan University



**Ethnic Minority Families Access to  
Early Intervention Psychological  
Services**

Francesca Weber, Homerton University  
Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

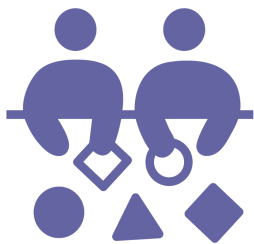


# EARLY CAREER RESEARCHERS

An important part of our mission is to support the development of Early Career Researchers (ECRs), including through working together with our fellow UKRI funded mental health research networks.

17% of subscribers to our mailing list identified themselves as ECRs as of November 2021.

We have regularly sought feedback from ECRs about what they would find useful and how they would like to be involved in the network. We have held a number of events to bring together ECRs and to support their professional development.



**3 Proposal  
Development  
workshops**



**3 Cross-sector  
Placements  
(1 more on the  
way!)**

**1 Research  
Challenges  
workshop**



**November &  
December 2020  
Advice for  
ECRs webinar  
series**

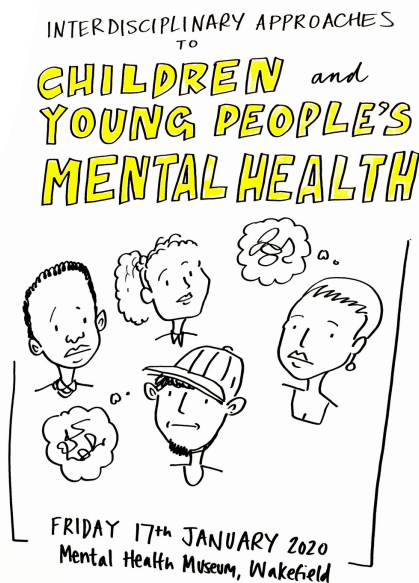


**3 Early  
Career  
Researcher  
workshops**



**3 Emerging  
Minds  
internships**

## Mental Health Museum Workshop



Professor James Stark (Professor of Medical Humanities, University of Leeds) hosted a workshop at the Mental Health Museum in January 2020. 23 post graduate and Early Career Researchers from a range of disciplines and members of the McPin Foundation's young people's network joined this session to focus on interdisciplinary approaches to mental health research.

In summer 2021, we hosted Keili Koppel, a Design Researcher as our Emerging Minds Design Research & Practice intern.

*"I am grateful to have had the chance to work with Emerging Minds Network over the past three months, especially for the opportunity to make new connections, develop research skills and build a good understanding of an emergent research area - design for children and young people's mental health. It has been a great learning experience and has led me to other research roles."*



**Keili Koppel, Design Researcher  
& previous Emerging Minds Intern**

# UPCOMING PROJECTS

As we head into our final year of funding from UKRI, we have a number of exciting projects to build upon our successes so far.

We are particularly keen to help stakeholders build connections across sectors, a key area of feedback from our mid-point survey.

Check out the exciting plans we have ahead!

We are delighted to launch our new **Emerging Minds Open Lab meeting series!**

As per the name, this meeting series is 'open' to all network members, but is particularly useful to Early Career Researchers (ECRs).

The aim is to provide a friendly and informal space to allow regular participants a chance to get to know each other and form useful connections. This again builds on the feedback from our members survey which indicated a strong desire for building greater network connections.

We are hosting monthly Zoom meetings on a variety of topics, including: perinatal and infant mental health, design & mental health research, and racism & youth mental health.



**Open Lab**  
Emerging Minds

[emergingminds.org.uk/openlab](https://emergingminds.org.uk/openlab)



## The Big Question funding call

[emergingminds.org.uk/funding-call-3](https://emergingminds.org.uk/funding-call-3)

Our third funding call opened in Autumn 2021, focusing on our **‘Big Question Research Challenge’**.

We aim to encourage and support our network to answer the following research questions:

- Why even when we know ‘what works’ isn’t this necessarily implemented in policy and practice?
- How do we improve evidence-based decision making? E.g.: How can we successfully inform commissioning decisions and policy making and how can we ultimately increase implementation of research into practice?

Our Emerging Minds intern, Abi Thomson, carried out a rapid scoping review of the barriers and facilitators of community-based implementation of research to address mental health promotion, prevention, and treatment for children and young people. She worked with two fantastic advisors, Nimrah and Georgia, to facilitate various workshops with parents and young people to help develop the funding call.

## A word from our Big Question intern

*“Emerging Minds have always been a network that I’ve admired, and being a part of it was an exciting opportunity that I’m grateful for at such an early stage in my career. The experiences offered throughout the internship were diverse and equipped me with a broad range of skills to take forward into future roles.*



*What set this role apart was being trusted to lead and take decisive actions in preparation for the funding call. This is something I valued and enjoyed and which has vastly increased my confidence moving forwards. I was also able to make a broad range of connections with others in the field which was hugely appreciated for someone at such an early stage in their career.*

*The team are very supportive and friendly and I found it easy to connect despite the internship being wholly virtual. I can’t thank them enough for giving me the chance to work on this project and be a part of the Emerging Minds team.”*

**Abigail Thomson, former Emerging Minds Intern  
and Research Assistant**

## 2022 cross sector placement

**MENTAL  
HEALTH  
INNOVATIONS**

**shout**  
**85258**  
here for you 24/7

**Coming soon!**

We are supporting a fourth placement for an Early Career Researcher, hosted by Shout 85258/ Mental Health Innovations.

Shout 85258, the first service from Mental Health Innovations (MHI), is the UK's first, free, 24/7 crisis text support service.

The aim of this placement is to better understand conversations that refer to thoughts about suicide and, in particular, what features of conversations lead to a de-escalation and/or the texter safety planning, including what coping strategies the texter may agree to use.

We anticipate that the findings will help MHI enhance the training and support they give volunteers about these types of conversations. In addition, we hope that the project will generate findings of broad interest to those working in suicide prevention.





## Grow Researcher Development Programme

[emergingminds.org.uk/grow](https://emergingminds.org.uk/grow)

We are just about to launch a new professional development programme for Early Career Researchers in response to feedback from ECRs in our members' survey. This will run from **January – July 2022** and will:

- Develop a network of post-PhD Early Career Researchers focused on children & young people's mental health, who can support each other in 2022 and beyond the life of the network.
- Support the professional development of participating researchers to work towards and achieve their professional goals
- Support participating researchers to develop the networks, skills and experience to work across sectors and disciplines to make a difference to children & young people's mental health.

# WHO WE ARE

## Leadership Team

**Professor Cathy Creswell**, University of Oxford - Principal Investigator

**Emily Lloyd**, University of Oxford - Network Manager

**Andre Tomlin**, Founder & Director, National Elf Service

**Pam Miller**, Associate Head of Research, NSPCC

**Kadra Abdinisir**, Associate Director of Children and Young People's Mental Health, Centre for Mental Health

**Professor Sue Walker**, Professor of Typography & Graphic Communication, University of Reading

**Professor Sarah Halligan**, Professor of Child and Family Mental Health, University of Bath

**Professor James Stark**, Professor Medical Humanities, University of Leeds

**Professor Chris Bonnell**, Professor of Public Health Sociology, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

**Professor Caroline Jay**, Professor of Computer Science, University of Manchester

**Professor Ann John**, Professor of Psychiatry & Public Health, Swansea University

**Professor Deborah Chambers**, Professor of Media and Communication, Newcastle University

**Dr Jen Martin**, Senior Programme Manager, NIHR MindTech/MedTech Co-operative

**Emma Thomas**, CEO of Young Minds

## Advisory Group

We are grateful for the hard work and dedication of all of our brilliant advisory group, particularly the young people and parents/ carers who bring their lived experience expertise

To find out more about them, visit our website:



[emergingminds.org.uk/team](https://emergingminds.org.uk/team)

# OUR PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Emerging Minds is part of the Cross-Disciplinary Mental Health Network Plus initiative supported by UK Research and Innovation. We are grateful to them for our funding and also to the following organisations who collaborated to establish the Emerging Minds Network.



UNIVERSITY OF  
**OXFORD**



University of  
**Reading**



**Newcastle**  
University



UNIVERSITY OF  
**BATH**



Centre for  
Mental Health



**NSPCC**

**YOUNG**MiNDS



**UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS**



University of  
**Nottingham**  
UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA



The University of Manchester

LONDON  
SCHOOL of  
HYGIENE  
& TROPICAL  
MEDICINE



Swansea University  
Prifysgol Abertawe

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